

HOUSE BILL 2591

By Rudder

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;
Title 37; Title 39; Title 40 and Title 71, relative to
victims of child sex trafficking.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 2, is amended by adding
the following as a new part:

37-2-701.

(a) The department of children's services and the department of human services shall work together with private, nonprofit community partners, for the purpose of enhancing a continuum of care and to establish a network of resource centers to provide information, assistance, services, and supports to persons from eighteen (18) to twenty-four (24) years of age who are victims of child sex trafficking.

(b) The resource centers must provide or facilitate assistance to victims of child sex trafficking necessary to:

- (1) Deal with the challenges and barriers associated with the transition into adulthood and early adult years;
- (2) Support postsecondary education, vocational training, and job skills development;
- (3) Coordinate delivery of services and information concerning employment, housing, transportation, parenting and family support, health care and mental health care, legal services, and victim's compensation funds; and
- (4) Navigate systems and procedures that impact the person's education, employment, health and mental welfare, and basic needs.

(c) These services must be available at any time until the person reaches twenty-four (24) years of age.

(d) The resource centers must be supported in part by the department of children's services and the department of human services, subject to the availability of funds specifically appropriated for this purpose. The department of children's services and the department of human services are authorized and encouraged to share staff with the resource centers.

37-2-702.

This part does not require a person to have maintained continuous contact with the resource centers, the department of children's services, or the department of human services in order to be eligible to receive services from the resource centers.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.